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Admiral Paul A. Smith
The Rand Corporation
1000 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your kind note of 29 August 1963 and its encouragement with respect to the SAB. I also discussed this briefly with Guy Stever, who urged me to examine carefully the possibilities of continuing. However, I have just missed another SAB general meeting and I am afraid that the problem is endemic to my present position.

Rather than do a deficient job as an associate member, I believe that I should go officially "inactive". At the present pace, I shall pile up an unprecedented absentee record and make myself completely ineligible for meaningful participation at a later date when my time may be freer. I would suggest that you discuss my gloomy outlook with Stever at your next executive session and consider how I might gracefully withdraw without prejudice for future participation.

In the meanwhile, if you are indeed curious about my new job I should be most happy to tell you about it as my guest for lunch. However, my only facility for reciprocal lunches is here at Langley so I shall have to overcome your reticence about dining with the CIA. Let me know by telephone [redacted] when you are free and I will send a car in for you as an added inducement.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

Albert D. Wheelon
Deputy Director

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